

PARK PROPERTY OFFERED CITY

Proposition Discussed at
Meeting of Common
Council Last Night

IS OFFERED FOR \$6,500

President of Railway Co. Returns Un-
favorable Reply to Suggestion For
Ticket Office at Spring Park.

The City Council was in session about three quarters of an hour last night. Several matters of general importance were considered, among them the proposition that the city take over George Washington Park. The Common Council adopted the report of the finance committee recommending an appropriation of \$6,500 for the use of the public schools. The manager of the Washington-Virginia Railway Co., in a communication to Council stated that the suggestion that the company erect a ticket office and waiting room at Spring Park could not be complied with. The matter was referred to the committee on streets. The other business which came up was of a miscellaneous nature.

Board of Aldermen

But four members of the Board of Aldermen were present. After the board had received the report of the finance committee recommending the appropriation for public school purposes the Aldermen adjourned to meet again at 7:30 o'clock next Friday night.

Common Council.

The memorial temple to Washington, the Mason, to cost about half a million dollars which the Washington Memorial Association proposes to erect may be built in George Washington Park.

This was disclosed at a meeting of the common council last night when a second proposition relative to the purchase of the George Washington Park property was submitted, through the finance committee, from the George Washington Monument Association. After a debate the matter was referred back to the finance committee for its action.

The proposition provides that the association will convey to the city of Alexandria for the sum of \$6,500 all of its holdings in George Washington Park, except certain lots which it expects to dispose of the Masons at a cost of \$1,000; that a part be set aside for "park purposes"; that it will turn over all streets and alleys, although there will be no obligation of city to open same, and that the property will be free from all encumbrances.

Councilman Bryan, chairman of the finance committee, explained that the original proposition had too many strings tied to it which the committee did not relish. Under the original agreement submitted he said it was provided that all of the property be used by the city for park purposes, and now it is set forth in the new contract that seven and one half or eight acres be used for park purposes. The entire tract contains, he explained, about twenty-eight acres. Certain lots on top of the hill, he said, the association expects to sell to the Masons for their proposed temple and in the event this part is not used for that purpose it is provided it shall revert to the city.

Councilman Brumback, thought that if the city purchased the property it should be able to do what it pleased with it, and he also thought that if the Masons are going to pay \$1,000 for certain lots this amount should be deducted by the association from the purchase price which would make the purchase price \$5,500 instead of \$6,500. If council could not do as it pleased with the property he said he was opposed by purchasing it.

According to Councilman H. R. Burke, it would not be keeping faith with lot owners to sell the property and not stipulate that some part was to be used for a park, although the erection of city buildings on the property should not be hindered.

President Smith called attention to the fact that a part of this property

had been asked for as a site for a hospital.

Mr. Burke said he did not think the placing of a hospital or other building by the city should jeopardize the acquisition of the property by the city. Clerk D. R. Stansbury, read a communication from R. W. King, general manager of the Washington-Virginia Railway Company, in reference to the request of City Council that the railway company erect a waiting room and office for sale of tickets at union station.

Mr. King among other things in his letter declared the present waiting shed to be sufficient and declined to have a ticket office at this point.

Councilman Frank S. Ballenger declared the present shed to be a nuisance and eyesore. He also added that during heavy rains women waiting at this shed are frequently drenched and have no protection.

President Smith said the shed was a disgrace and also called attention to the fact that the railway company violates the law daily by not using fenders on its cars while in this city. Mr. King's letter was referred to the finance committee.

The sum of \$6,500 was appropriated on the recommendation of the finance committee, for the schools for salaries for September and October, it being set forth that the school budget has not been made in the general appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1916.

Petition of Mrs. L. Wilbur Reid for permission to erect portico to house at northeast corner of Fairfax and Cameron streets, portico to extend six feet on Fairfax street side was referred to the street committee. Mrs. Reid explained in her communication that this is the Anne Lee Memorial Home for the Aged, which is to be improved.

The other business disposed of will be found in the official proceedings.

EMBALMER COMMITS SUICIDE

Was Charged With Statutory Offense
Against Young Girl.

Baltimore, Sept. 28.—Arrested as he was leaving the bedside of his 2-year-old son Charles, who is a patient in the orthopedic department of the Mercy Hospital, James H. Larke, 44 years old, an embalmer, committed suicide by shooting himself in the right temple in an elevator in the institution Monday afternoon.

Larke came to Baltimore from Washington, where his father, Harry Larke, sr., lives, with his son Lloyd Larke, and two brothers. Another brother, Harry Larke, jr., lives in Anacostia.

At the time of the shooting Larke was in custody of an officer, who held a warrant charging him with a statutory offense against a young girl. Larke, separated from his wife, had taken their 5-year-old son, William Larke, to the hospital to visit Charles, who is suffering from spinal trouble.

After leaving his son the trio entered the elevator as it was descending from the fourth floor, where a christening party, consisting of baby, parents, god parents, and the priest, entered the elevator. The christening party alighted on the second floor where the chapel is located. As the elevator was descending to the first floor Larke shot himself.

Little William Larke, who was a witness to his father's suicide, cried bitterly last night. He said his father had said on the way to the hospital that if anything happened to him he would kill his wife, the girl, and himself.

Freezing weather in Northern New England today and heavy frosts along the Great Lakes, the Upper Ohio Valley and the Atlantic Coast north of Maryland were predicted last night by the Weather Bureau. The lowest temperature recorded yesterday was at New Lisbon, N. J., where the thermometer registered 5 degrees below freezing. The typical storm, which has been raging during the last two days in the South Atlantic, was central off the mouth of the Mississippi river and moving northward. Easterly gales were reported from New Orleans to Pensacola, Florida.

MARLEY ENCAMPMENT

A called meeting of Marley Encampment will be held tonight at 7:30 o'clock, in Odd Fellows Hall, to make arrangement for the funeral of the late George H. Hinken.

A. T. Sullivan, Scribe.

RUSSIAN ARMY MAKES ESCAPE

Germans Claim to Have
Captured Thirty Thou-
sand Muscovites

OFFENSIVE BROKEN

Slavic Troops Again on the Run. With
New German Objective the For-
tress of Rovno

London, Sept. 29.—Lifting at length the veil of mystery that has been concealing to the outside world the fate of the Russian Wilna army ever since Field Marshal von Hindenburg's army pierced the heart of the railroad system in Western Russia, the German war office announces officially that General von Eichhorn captured in the battle of Wilna, 21,000 men and military officers, not including the figures previously reported. Supplementing this statement, the official report asserts the battle "led to the enemy's being repulsed across the Lake Maroz-Smogon-Wischnew line."

The inevitable deduction from the above statement is: That the Czar's Wilna army did escape the Teuton trap. Moreover, it escaped in the very nick of time, for as the German statement shows the retreat was not made as had been generally believed, over the southern line of the Wilna-Lida-Molodetschno Railroad triangle, but over the northern road, in a desperate, successful race with the German army in the immediate reach, and at times in partial control, of that road. The Wilna army was estimated at a minimum of 300,000. Many experts figured it at a half million men. Adding to today's official German figure of prisoners 9,000 as comprising—at a maximum—the previously reported figures, the conclusion must be reached that of the minimum of 300,000 Wilna defenders, 265,000 escaped. If of this number 20,000 men are still fighting rear guard actions, insuring the retreat of the bulk, the number of those who are actually safe from Hindenburg's gigantic shears will be nearly 250,000.

FOUGHT FIRE SEVEN DAYS

New York, Sept. 29.—The French line freighter La Drome arrived in port yesterday, victor over a blaze which raged for seven days in one of her holds.

La Drome left Bordeaux August 31 and at 4 A. M., September 11, fire was discovered beneath No. 2 forehatch. The officers and crew set to work at once and were able to keep it under control, even refusing assistance when spoken on September 14 by another steamer.

Although bilge pumps got out of order and the La Drome was obliged to lay to three days to repair them, the fire was finally extinguished, the water than standing seven feet deep in the hold.

NOTICE I. O. O. F.

The members of Potomac Lodge, No. 38, I. O. O. F., are requested to meet at Odd Fellows Hall, Wednesday evening, September 29, 1915, at 7:30 p. m., to make arrangements for the funeral of our late Brother, George H. Hinken.

By order of Noble Grand, I. S. Groves, N. L. WILLIAMSON, Secretary.

NOTICE TO GAS CONSUMERS

Gas bills for quarter ending Sept. 1, 1915 having been delivered, this is to notify all gas consumers that all bills paid on or before October 1, 1915, will be entitled to a discount of 30 cents per 1000 cubic feet. After that date no discount will be allowed and all delinquents will be required to make an early settlement.

By order of Committee on Light.

J. B. WALLER

Clerk of Gas

TERMS OF THE LOAN

Morgan Syndicate to Buy Flotation at
96—Let at 98

New York, Sept. 29.—Official announcement was made simultaneously in New York and Chicago yesterday evening of the terms on which the \$500,000,000 Anglo-French loan will be issued, namely:

A nation-wide syndicate now being formed by J. P. Morgan & Co., and other bankers and banks will buy the whole \$500,000,000, bearing 5 per cent interest at 96, the cost to the borrowers being over 5 1-2 per cent.

This syndicate will offer the bonds to the public at 98, the yield being 5 2-5—almost 5 1-2 per cent.

Cash can be obtained at par (100) at the end of five years, or holders can then exchange the bonds for a 4 1-2 per cent Anglo-French issue repayable in not less than fifteen and not more than twenty-five years thereafter.

Part of the issue will be in \$100 ("baby") bonds, as direct appeal is to be made to small investors from end to end of the country, each Federal reserve district having a local subcommittee of bankers to distribute the loan in their territory.

Subscriptions can be paid in installments.

The money, until needed, will be left on deposit in each district with bankers joining the national syndicate.

Russia will not participate in the loan.

The official announcement does not state that the money will not be used to pay for munitions.

It merely says all the proceeds will be used in America to stabilize foreign exchange, and thus facilitate export trade.

Washington, Sept. 29.—The sensational charge that a group of bankers, headed by members of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., bartered with Great Britain, France and Russia to negotiate a \$1,000,000,000 loan in return for war contracts netting them \$400,000,000 profit, is made by the executive committee of the "National Industrial Peace Conference" in a report issued yesterday. The Federal Reserve Board, for good measure, is charged with acquiescing in the transaction.

AWAIT BALKANS' CALL

Allies Ready to Block Bulgaria, De-
clares Grey.

London, Sept. 29.—"If Bulgaria mobilization should result in Bulgaria assuming an aggressive attitude on the side of our enemies, we are prepared to give our friends in the Balkans all the support in our power, in a manner that would be most welcome to them, in concert with our allies, without reserve and without qualification," was the pregnant announcement made by Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Secretary, in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon.

Premier Asquith, who also addressed the House, made an urgent appeal to all his hearers to abstain from raising questions concerning recruiting for the national service.

"We are at a critical moment in the history of the war," he said. "We are watching with most intense sympathy and hope the gallant combined efforts of the allied forces."

"I do not think a greater disservice could be rendered this country and the cause of the Allies than that at this moment a suggestion should go forth to the world that there is any division of opinion here."

The speeches of Premier Asquith and Foreign Secretary Grey were followed with the closest attention, as they dealt with phases of the war situation which are of particular interest in England at the present.

The annual meeting of the stockholders and directors of the Harris and Shafer Co., will be held at the office of the company, 123 south Royal st., Alexandria, Va., at 2:30 p. m., Thursday, September 30, 1915.

By order of the President.

E. A. HARRIS, Secretary.

NOTICE

The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Commerce and Savings of Washington, D. C. will be held at the Alexandria office of the Bank, 119 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, Va., Thursday, September 30, 1915, at 10 o'clock a. m.

JOSEPH M. MILANS, Secretary.

ALLIES BATTER GERMANS BACK

Continue to Gain in Fierce
Attacks at Several
Points on Line

DRIVE BACK PRINCE

Desperate Charges in Argonne Are
Repelled, Leaving Many Dead
Covering the Ground.

London, Sept. 29.—"We are now closely engaged with the enemy's 'thir' line."

This report to the war office from Field Marshal Sir John French concerning the British drive toward Lille has created wild enthusiasm in London in spite of the counter claims from Berlin that the general offensive of the allies has been halted and some territory regained.

Berlin admitting the evacuation of Souchez, the loss of Loos to the British and the withdrawal from the Perches positions with the abandonment of considerable material declares that the danger of her lines being broken is over and that further advances are bound to fail.

Paris, Sept. 29.—The French troops fighting on the western front, have made further gains of ground east of Souchez and north of Massiges. The prisoners taken including Germans recently brought back from the Russian front, according to the official communication issued by the French War Office.

A heavy artillery action is in progress in the Argonne, where a German counter-attack is said to have been repulsed. The Germans left the ground before the trenches covered with dead. Additional progress is reported in the Champagne, where the Germans are offering determined resistance. The positions to which they have retreated are protected by a system of barbed wire entanglements. The text of the statement follows:

"During the day of September 28 our troops continued to gain ground foot by foot in the direction of the ridges to the east of Souchez. We took about 100 prisoners, among whom were men of the Guard Corps, brought back a few days ago from Russian front."

"In Champagne likewise, new progress has been realized, particularly to the north of Massiges, where we have taken an additional 800 prisoners."

"The enemy has directed against our trenches in the Argonne a violent bombardment to which we have efficaciously replied, but he has attempted no infantry action."

"Engagements with grenades have enabled us to regain some parts of our first line, where the enemy had maintained himself since yesterday."

"There has been intermittent cannonading in the forest of Le Pretre and in the region of the Ban de Sapt" the text of the afternoon statement follows:

"In the Arotis district we made advances and gained ground step by step in the directions of the hill tops to the east and to the southeast of Souchez."

"In the Champagne district the Germans are offering resistance from certain of their positions, where they are protected by concealed barbed wire entanglements."

"We have made further progress in the direction of Hill No. 185, which is to the west of the Navarin farm, and in the direction of La Justice, which is to the north of Massiges."

"In the Argonne the obstinate attacks delivered yesterday by the enemy with six or eight battalions against our first-line trenches at La Fille Morte and at Nolante resulted in a serious check. The counter-attacks made by us in the course of the night made it possible for us to expel the German infantrymen from almost all the positions they had succeeded in penetrating. The ground in front of our trenches is covered with dead bodies of the enemy."

"The night passed with relative calm along the remainder of the front."

"British communication from Field

Marshal French: to the northwest of counter-attacks and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. Our captures now reach a total of 53 officers 2800 men, 18 cannon and 32 rapid-fire guns. The enemy furthermore abandoned a considerable amount of war material, which has not yet been listed."

LOCAL BREVITIES

David Agnew Greenlees, of Mt. Vernon, died yesterday at the Emergency Hospital, Washington, following an operation. He was a son of Archibald Greenlees and the late, Lenora Agnew Greenlees, the latter of this city. A wife and several children survive.

The State Corporation Commission has granted an amendment to the charter of Smoot & Jelliff, Inc., Alexandria, changing the name to Frank R. Jelliff, Inc.

The alarm of fire this morning was caused by the burning of a bed at No. 1616 King street. The flames were soon extinguished.

Jane Whiting, wife of Joseph Whiting, a well known and respected colored woman, died last night at her home, 612 Gibbon Street.

J. B. Waller, Clerk of Gas, calls attention to the fact that no discount will be allowed on quarterly gas bills that are not paid by October 1st.

DUMBA TO BE RECALLED

Vienna Government Assures Penfield
U. S. Request Will Be Met.

Washington, Sept. 28.—Dr. Constantin T. Dumba, Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to the United States, will be formally recalled by his Government, according to assurances given American Ambassador Penfield at the Vienna Foreign Office.

Mr. Penfield had been instructed to make clear informally that "leave of absence" for Dr. Dumba would not satisfy the request of the United States in its formal note asking for the recall of Dr. Dumba. While discussing the situation with Austrian officials, Mr. Penfield was advised that the wishes of the United States would be complied with. A note on the subject is being prepared and immediately upon its receipt safe conduct home for Dr. Dumba will be arranged and the incident so far as the United States is concerned will be closed.

Until formal notification of Dr. Dumba's recall is received, State Department officials will make no announcement. They are ready, however, to hurry negotiations for the safe conduct the moment satisfactory word arrived from Vienna, in order that Dr. Dumba may sail on the steamer Rotterdam this week, in accordance with his plan.

Charge d'Affaires Barclay, of the British Embassy, called on Acting Secretary Polk at the State Department today and later the Secretary stated that the necessary information, which would assure Dr. Dumba's unmolested passage, could be arranged by wire in a few hours if Vienna's official acquiescence to the American request for his recall should arrive in time. Written assurances that Madame Dumba could proceed without fear of interference from British or French authorities was mailed Saturday, the allied embassies having notified the department that safe conduct was superfluous in the case of a noncombatant.

New York, Sept. 28.—It was announced here that Dr. Constantin T. Dumba, Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, had deferred his departure from this country for a few days. Dr. Dumba has canceled his passage on the steamer Rotterdam, sailing September 29, it was said, and has engaged passage on the steamer Nieuw Amsterdam, of the Holland-American Line, sailing October 5.

DEATH NOTICE

On Tuesday, September 28, 1915, GEORGE F. KEEGAN, Funeral From St. Mary's Church on Friday, October 1, at 9:30 a. m. Friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

NOTICE R. A. M.

The stated convocation of Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter, No. 14, will be held Friday, October 1, 1915. Come and greet the new officers. Work, S. and R. and M. E. M. A. G. UHLER, Secretary.

BATTLESHIP IS BLOWN TO BITS

Internal Fire Destroys Big
Italian Vessel and half
of Crew

REAR ADMIRAL DEAD

Government Declares Disaster Was
Not Work of Spy, But of Fire Ex-
ploding Magazine.

Rome, Sept. 29.—The first class Italian battleship Menedotto Bryn was literally torn to pieces by an internal explosion while lying at anchor yesterday in the harbor of Brindisi. Only 378 men and eight officers of her entire crew of 720 men were saved. This makes the casualty list total 344 officers and men. Rear Admiral Rubin De Cervin, who was in command of the ship, is among the dead.

The admiralty in briefly announcing the accident dispels all suspicion that a hostile submarine may have been responsible for the explosion by revealing that it was due to a slight internal fire which reached the magazines before it could be extinguished. There was no time, however, for warning to be given the men and no attempt was made to lower boats. An enormous detonation sounded; the boat split open; a cloud of smoke shot into the air, and a few minutes later the spot where the Menedotto Bryn had been riding was marked only by struggling bodies and floating debris. The Menedotto Bryn was a vessel of 13,427 tons. She was completed in 1904 at a cost of \$5,750,000.

The harbor at Brindisi was well filled with warships of all classes, some of them lying close by the Menedotto Bryn, but none of them was injured so far as known at present. From the very outset of the war, the Brindisi harbor has been used as a base for the Italian fleet.

No mention is made by the admiralty of the cause of the fire. Last there should be some suspicion that it was caused by a spy the admiralty says that it was entirely accidental.

AUTOMOBILE CLUB NOTES

Organization Will Fit up Rooms for
Use of Members.

The Alexandria Automobile Club has made arrangements for opening up two rooms as club rooms and official headquarters for the club in a portion of the building now occupied by the Central Garage. Not only will members of the club find the rooms a convenient place for informal meetings, but visiting motorists will be invited to make the club rooms their headquarters while in this city. The rooms will be furnished in an attractive style, and already a contract has been let for their renovation. It is believed that not only will the club itself profit by having its own club rooms, but Alexandria will be well advertised through this medium by reason of motorists from other states receiving a cordial reception at the local club rooms.

Mr. W. H. Hellmuth, president of the club, has recently received a letter from the Sheephead Bay Corporation requesting that the names of such members of the local Club who expect to attend the Astor cup race at Sheephead Bay on October 2nd, be forwarded, in order that they may be assigned good seats.

The secretary of the club has just received from the Richmond Automobile Club a copy of the latter's magazine, entitled "The Richmond Motorist." It is attractively gotten up and is a very creditable publication and of particular interest to all automobile owners.

Local club members will be interested in knowing that 20,600 licenses have been issued for automobiles in Virginia this year, thus far. This is an increase of 6,000 over last year.

FALL AND WINTER OPENING

Miss Annie Hurdle extends an invitation to all, September 29th and 30th, Wednesday and Thursday. We take pleasure in showing our goods. We have the latest styles.